

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. AA-2076

Magi No.

DOE yes no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 3900 Germantown Road mayo not for publication

city, town Whitemarsh Creek vicinity of congressional district

state MD county AA

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Helen E. Parris Map 60/parcel 183 (.50 acre)

street & number 3900 Germantown Rd. telephone no.:

city, town Edgewater, state and zip code MD. 21037

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber 3298

street & number folio 661

city, town state

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

ate ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. AA-2076

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☐ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

A charming frame bungalow with jerkin-head roof and hipped dormers.  
Weatherboard siding.  
2/2 windows.  
Mostly unaltered.  
Situated on a bluff above the water at the mouth of Whitemarsh Creek.  
Faces SE.

## 8. Significance

Survey No.

AA-2076

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates****Builder/Architect**check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Willy Behlke, one of five brothers who grew up south of Germantown Road at the site of the present Rhode River Marina, built this house in 1915, according to his daughter Helen Parris, owner.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. *AA-2076*

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name *South River, Md.*

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title *Susan Wehrull*

organization *A.A.Co. Planning & Zoning*

date *July 1987*

street & number

telephone

city or town

state

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

Background  
information on  
"Germantown" in Mayo:

Oral history 7/87

Bernice Witt Cummings' mother was a Behlke. Her mother's parents came from Germany and settled west of Carr's Wharf in 1888 on land purchased from Sam Carr. They had at least 6 children: Bernice's mother plus 5 sons (Albert, Fritz, Henry, John and Willy.)

Next door, to the east, there lived another German family, The Witts (Bernice's father's family) who settled there in the 1890's (per Helen Taylor Harris, owner of the orig. Witt family house).

This area, west of Carr's wharf, became known as "Germantown". Bernice's 5 uncles stayed in the area when grown: Fritz married and lived in the family house and operated a marine railway for hauling/repairing workboats (he didn't like pleasure yachts). Today his waterfront property is site of the Rhode River Marina which caters to pleasure-boaters!) His son Ralph <sup>1888</sup> 1937 (cont'd)

jerkin<sup>head</sup>-roofed bungalow is marina property; the old, family house has been torn down. Ralph lives in a new brick rancher next door (to the west). <sup>Behlke.</sup>

② Albert never married and lived at home in family house until his death in 1930.

③ Henry bought a small <sup>pre-1906</sup> house at end of Germantown Rd (AA-2075) and enlarged it; he bought it sometime after 1906.

④ Willy married and built a jerkin-roofed bungalow in 1915 when his oldest child was 6 mos. His daughter Helen Harris lives there now. (AA-2076)

⑤ John built his house in 1915 too, per. Ralph Behlke. It is a side-gabled 1-story with protruding cross-gable wings front and back, now quite substantially altered. (South of Willy's hse.)

The Behlke family gravestones are in St. Andrews Church Cemetery, corner of Carrs Wharf Rd. and Mayo Rd.

[The above oral information comes from interviews with Bernice Witt Cummings, Ralph Behlke, and Helen Taylor Harris, owner of the Witt Hse. AA-2078.]

Notes by S. Wehrull 6/30/87

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● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1978  
369000m.E. 76°30'

ROAD CLASSIFICATION





AA-2076

WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

Germanatown, Mayo

A.A.Co. MD

J. Wetherill 6/87

Facade, SE elev.



AA-2076

WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

Germanatown, Mayo

A.A.Co. MD

S. Wetherill 6/87

E. Corner



AA-2076

WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

germantown, Mayo

Q.A.Co. MD

S. Wetherill 6/87

W. corner